

THE AMENDMENTS

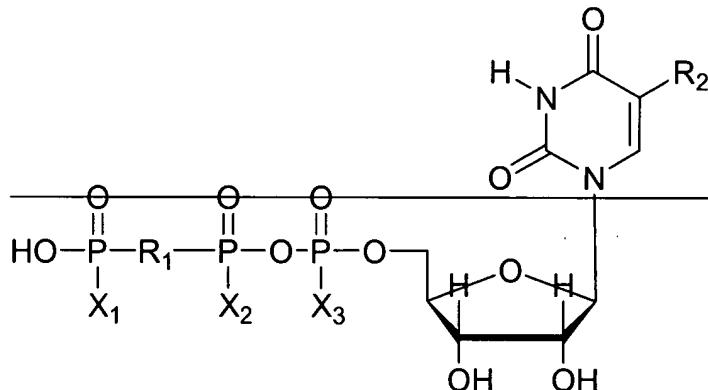
In the Claims

1. (Amended) A method of stimulating tear secretion and mucin production in eyes comprising the step of administering to the eyes an effective amount of a preparation which ~~includes a compound selected from a group consisting of uridine 5' triphosphate and derivatives as depicted in Formula I, dinucleotides comprising a dinucleotide as depicted in Formulae II, II(a) and II(b), adenosine 5' triphosphate derivatives as depicted in Formula III, and cytidine 5' triphosphate derivatives as depicted in Formula IV, [[and]] or their pharmaceutically acceptable salts; and~~

a physiologically compatible vehicle selected from the group consisting of aqueous electrolyte solutions, polyethers, polyvinyls, polymers of acrylic acid, lanolin, and glucosaminoglycans;

whereby said preparation ~~promotes~~ is effective in promoting tear secretion and mucin production in the eyes in a subject in need of such treatment:

FORMULA I



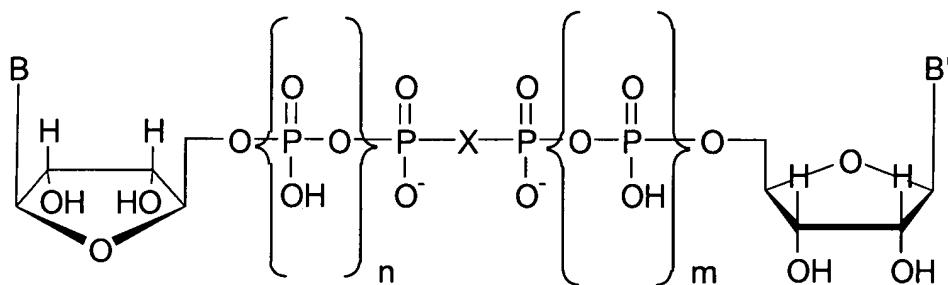
wherein:

~~X₁, X₂ and X₃ are each independently either O or S;~~

~~R₁ is O, imido, methylene or dihalomethylene;~~

~~R₂ is H or Br;~~

FORMULA II



wherein:

X is oxygen, imido, methylene or difluoromethylene;

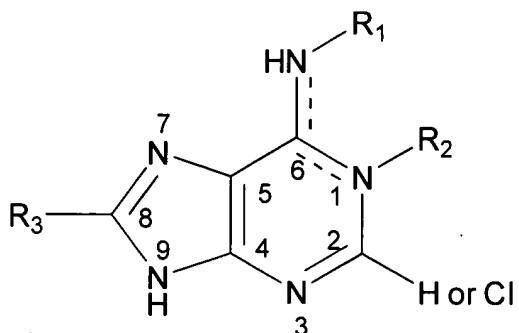
n = 0 or 1;

m = 0 or 1;

n + m = 0, 1 or 2; and

B and B' are each independently a purine residue, as in Formula IIa, or a pyrimidine residue, as in Formula IIb, linked through the 9- or 1-position, respectively:

FORMULA IIa

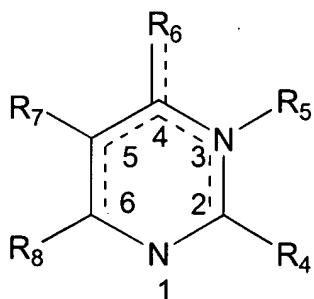


wherein:

R₃ is NHR₁;

R_1 of the 6- or 8-HNR₁ groups is chosen from the group consisting of hydrogen, arylalkyl (C₁₋₆) groups; and alkyl groups with functional groups selected from the group consisting of ([6-aminohexyl]carbamoylmethyl)-, ω -acylated-amino(hydroxy, thiol or carboxy)alkyl(C₂₋₁₀)- and ω -acylated-amino (hydroxy, thiol or carboxy) derivatives where the acyl group is chosen from the group consisting of acetyl, trifluoroacetyl trifluoroacetyl, benzoyl, and substituted-benzoyl;

FORMULA IIb



wherein:

R_4 is hydroxy, mercapto, amino, cyano, aralkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylamino or dialkylamino, with the alkyl groups optionally linked to form a heterocycle;

R_5 is hydrogen, acyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, aroyl, C₁₋₅ alkanoyl, benzoyl, or sulphonate;

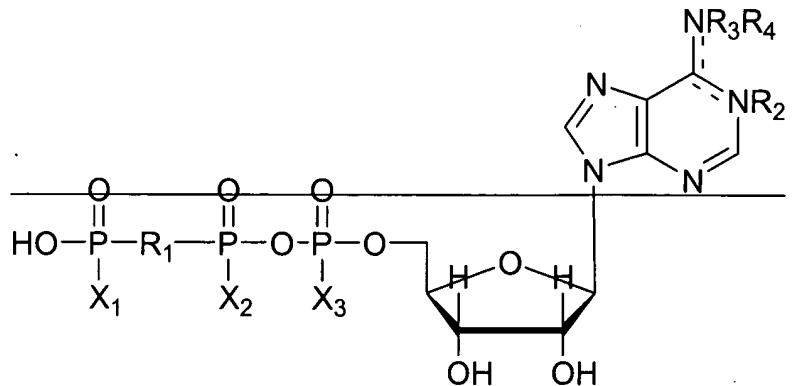
R_6 is hydroxy, mercapto, alkoxy, aralkoxy, C₁₋₆-alkylthio, C₁₋₅ disubstituted amino, triazolyl, alkylamino or dialkylamino, where the alkyl groups are optionally linked to form a heterocycle or linked to N³ to form an optionally substituted ring;

R_7 is hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, alkenyl with the alkenyl moiety optionally linked through oxygen to form a ring optionally substituted on the carbon adjacent to the oxygen with alkyl or aryl groups, substituted-alkynyl, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, perhalomethyl, C₂₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₃ alkenyl, or substituted ethenyl, C₂₋₃ alkynyl or substituted alkynyl;

or together R₆ – R₇ form a 5 or 6-membered saturated or unsaturated ring bonded through N or O at R₆, such a ring optionally contains substituents that themselves contain functionalities; ~~provided that when R₈ is amino or substituted amino, R₇ is hydrogen;~~ and

R_8 is hydrogen, alkoxy, arylalkoxy, alkylthio, arylalkylthio, carboxamidomethyl, carboxymethyl, methoxy, methylthio, phenoxy or phenylthio[[:]].

FORMULA III



wherein:

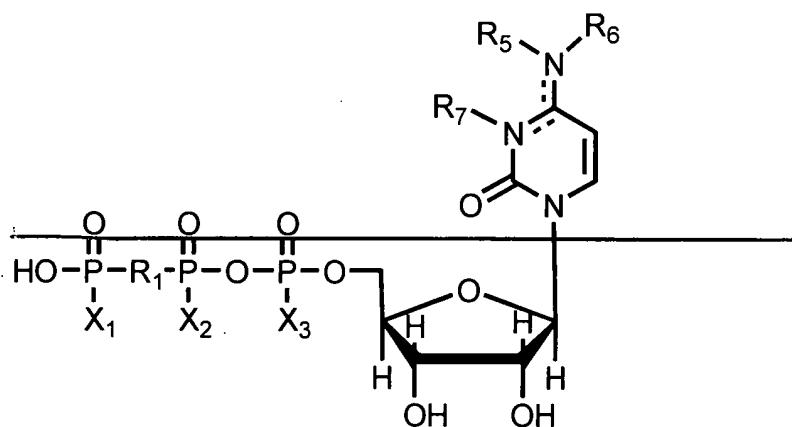
R_4 , X_1 , X_2 and X_3 are defined as in Formula I;

R_3 and R_4 are H while R_2 is nothing and there is a double bond between N 1 and C 6, or

R_3 and R_4 are H while R_2 is O and there is a double bond between N 1 and C 6, or

R_3 , R_4 and R_2 taken together are $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, forming a ring from N 6 to N 1 with a double bond between N 6 and C 6;

FORMULA IV



wherein:

~~R₄, X₁, X₂ and X₃ are defined as in Formula I;~~
~~R₅ and R₆ are H while R₇ is nothing and there is a double bond between N 3 and C 4, or~~
~~R₅, R₆ and R₇ taken together are CH=CH, forming a ring from N 3 to N 4 with a double~~
~~bond between N 4 and C 4 optionally substituted at the 4 or 5 position of the etheno ring.~~

2. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to Claim 1, wherein said administration involves topical administration of said compound via a carrier vehicle selected from a group consisting of drops of liquid, liquid wash, gels, ointments, sprays and liposomes.

3. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to Claim 2, wherein said topical administration comprises infusion of said compound to said ~~ocular surface~~ eyes via a device selected from [[a]] the group consisting of a pump-catheter system, a continuous or selective release device, and a contact lens.

4. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to Claim 1, wherein said administration involves ~~systemic administration of said compound by~~ systemically administering a liquid/liquid suspension of said compound via nose drops or nasal spray or nebulized liquid to oral or nasopharyngeal airways of said subject, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the ~~lacrimal tissues~~ eyes of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

5. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~claim-1~~ Claim 4, wherein said ~~systemic administration of said compound is accomplished by~~ involves systemically administering an oral form of said compound, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the ~~lacrimal tissues~~ eyes of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

6. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~claim-4~~ Claim 1, wherein said ~~systemic administration of said compound is accomplished by~~ administering an injectable form of said compound, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the lacrimal tissues of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

7. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 4 Claim 1, wherein said ~~systemic administration of said compound~~ is accomplished by administering a suppository form of said compound, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the lacrimal tissues of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

8. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 4 Claim 1, wherein said ~~systemic administration of said compound~~ is accomplished by administering an intra-operative instillation of a gel, cream, powder, foam, crystals, liposomes, spray or liquid suspension form of said compound, ~~such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the lacrimal tissues of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.~~

9. (Amended) [[A]] The method according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is administered in an amount sufficient to achieve concentrations thereof on the ocular surfaces of said subject of from about 10^{-7} to about 10^{-1} moles/liter.

10. (Amended) A method of stimulating tear secretion and mucin production in eyes comprising the step of administering to the eyes an effective amount of P^1, P^4 -di(uridine-5')-tetraphosphate to promote tear secretion and mucin production in the eyes.

11. (Amended) A method of treating dry eye diseases comprising the step of administering to the eyes an effective amount of P^1, P^4 -di(uridine-5')-tetraphosphate to promote tear secretion and mucin production in the eyes.

12. (Cancelled).